

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 20, 2003. However, Applicants note that, due to an initial confusion regarding the "SNAP" reference (discussed hereinafter), the time period for response is believed to have been restarted as of May 27, 2003 per the communication of May 27, 2003.

Claims 1, 8, 11 and 12 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1 and 8 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by Sweeney et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,230,314), while Claims 11 and 12 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(a,b) as anticipated by "using the SNAP Development Environment". However, in paragraph 5 of the Office Action at page 6, the Examiner has stated his interpretation that Figures 5 and 12 of the present application illustrate allowable subject matter. In particular, paragraph 5 indicates that the performance of the optimization step after the program has been rewritten -- that is, after a programmer has performed the normal steps of writing an object oriented program -- is considered to be novel.

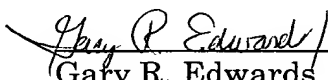
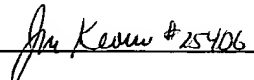
By the foregoing amendment, Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to incorporate the above-identified feature of the invention, which the Examiner has characterized as novel. In particular, each claim has been amended to recite that the optimized information input means "is operable after a program is

written". Accordingly, Claims 1 and 11 (and therefore Claims 8 and 12) are now believed to be allowable.

In light of the foregoing remarks, this application should be in condition for allowance, and early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #381NP/47598).

Respectfully submitted,

 
Gary R. Edwards
Registration No. 31,824

CROWELL & MORING, LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
GRE:kms/56207